

relationships that are based here . . . the coming together of so many wonderful people who gathered around the visions of the future directions and potentials of our field." Donald dedicated his career to helping children with very special needs. He has been recognized nationally and internationally for his work in urban child development and the impact of violence and trauma on children and families. However, it was his clinical and research activities which focused on the developmental psychopathology of serious childhood neuropsychiatric disorders including pervasive developmental and tic disorders and autism that were closest to his heart. It was here that he truly wanted to make a difference.

Over the last several years, I worked on so many projects with the Yale Child Study Center, and almost always worked closely with Donald. Since our first meeting, I was in awe of his tireless efforts and dedication—especially to his research on autism. It was only this past week that I received the news that he would be honored next month at the International Meeting for Autism Research with the Lifetime Award for Research in Autism. In his letter, he described this occasion as "particularly special . . . because they bring together what I have most cherished what I have most cherished about my life as a scholar and a clinician—the opportunity to be a part of family's lives and the lives of students and colleagues working together to improve our understanding of the most enduring questions of human development."

I stand today to pay tribute to a great man and to extend my deepest sympathies to his wife Phyllis, his four children and their families, and his mother Rose. A tireless advocate and a dear friend, Dr. Donald Cohen was an inspiring leader and his legacy will forever live in the hearts of the many lives he has touched.

#### STATEMENT ON THE TEMPORARY UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION (TUC) ACT

**HON. BENJAMIN L. CARDIN**

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 4, 2001*

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. Speaker, as our economy enters a period of great uncertainty, Congress can take at least one step that will protect the families most imperiled by mounting job losses, while simultaneously stimulating consumer demand and economic growth. In short, we should improve our unemployment compensation (UC) system. Expanding, extending and supplementing UC coverage will put more money into the pockets of the families most affected by economic dislocations and most likely to spend quickly.

I am therefore introducing the Temporary Unemployment Compensation Act to improve our Nation's response to rising unemployment levels. The bill would draw down funds from the federal unemployment accounts for one year to: (1) provide benefits to certain unemployed workers who are now not covered by the Unemployment Compensation system; (2) extend benefits by 13 weeks to workers whose regular UC has expired; and (3) supplement the amount of unemployment benefits. Over the next year, these provisions

would provide UC benefits to over one million jobless Americans who otherwise would go without any assistance, they would extend UC coverage to roughly 3 million individuals whose regular benefits have expired, and they would increase the amount of unemployment payments to 9 million displaced workers. With new claims for unemployment benefits recently reaching their highest level in nine years, it is imperative that Congress and the Administration consider these reforms in the quickest possible time frame.

Any effort to improve our unemployment system must start with the recognition that many dislocated workers, particularly low-wage workers, do not receive assistance from the current system when they are laid off. The General Accounting Office (GAO) reported last December that while low-wage workers were twice as likely to become unemployed, they were only half as likely to receive UC benefits compared to higher-wage workers, even when employed for similar periods of time. The GAO cited the fact that only 18% of unemployed low-wage workers were receiving UI benefits compared to 40% of higher-wage workers. This problem may track a general reduction in the percentage of unemployed Americans who actually receive UC benefits (which has declined over the last few decades from about one-half to about one-third).

Over the last few years, Congress has received repeated recommendations to correct this situation. Groups suggesting changes include: the Advisory Council on Unemployment Compensation, which was jointly appointed by Congress and the President; the Committee for Economic Development, which is led by leaders in business and academia; and a group of state, federal, business and labor stakeholders in the UC system. All of these organizations highlighted two issues that must be addressed. First, too many unemployed workers are denied UC because their most recent wages are not counted. (Many States do not count the last completed quarter of work). And second, part-time workers are sometimes discriminated against in the UC system. To begin to address these inequities, the TUC Act would provide federally-funded UC coverage for one year to jobless workers who would be otherwise ineligible because their last completed quarter of employment was not included in their wage record, and to unemployed workers seeking part-time employment.

As unemployment creeps up, it becomes increasingly difficult for dislocated workers to quickly find new jobs. For this reason, Congress also should consider increasing the duration of unemployment benefits, particularly since the current law provision providing an extension of benefits has proven ineffective. In fact, since 1983, only 12 States have triggered on to the current Extended Benefits (EB) program. Because changes to the existing EB program would demand time-consuming changes to many State's laws, this legislation would establish a new, temporary program that would provide an additional 13 weeks of benefits to individuals whose regular UC expires. Like the coverage for certain newly eligible workers, these extended benefits would be federally-funded and would continue requirements that recipients seek work.

One final area that deserves attention is the adequacy of UC benefits. Unemployment benefits generally replace 50% or less of lost wages, leaving many workers hard-pressed to

meet their monthly bills. This is particularly true in many urban and suburban areas where housing costs have exceeded inflation over the last decade. Furthermore, many States have relatively low average and maximum UC payment rates (the average weekly UC payment in the US is about \$230). Finally, UC wage replacement rates were never adjusted to account for the fact that unemployment benefits were made fully taxable in 1986. This tax policy was enacted to ensure equity among families with the same amount income but from different sources. However, it has had the effect of reducing the value of UC benefits by about 15%. Therefore, to restore the value of unemployment benefits, while also maintaining equity in the tax code, this legislation would increase every UC recipient's weekly check by 15% for the next year.

Mr. Speaker, we have over \$38 billion in the Federal Unemployment Trust Funds. Those reserves are designed just for this purpose—responding to rising unemployment. We should spend a portion of those funds to help Americans face the uncertainties and hardships that come with increased joblessness. The Temporary Unemployment Compensation Act will put those monies to good use by expanding, extending and increasing unemployment coverage just when it is needed most. Thank you.

#### A TRIBUTE TO MARY R. WRIGHT

**HON. SAM FARR**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 4, 2001*

Mr. FARR of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the selfless public service of an individual who has committed herself to the betterment of our public parks. Ms. Mary R. Wright recently retired from her position as Chief Deputy Director of the California Department of Parks and Recreation, and I wish to take this opportunity to recognize her work for the State of California.

Mary began her career with the Department of Parks and Recreation in 1978 as the Acting Assistant Director, in Los Angeles. In this capacity, she worked as a liaison between the Department and various agencies and organizations in the greater Los Angeles area. Her valuable combination of talent in management and passion for our natural resources were quickly recognized by all those with whom she worked, and she held a variety of positions within the Department before being named District Superintendent for the Monterey District. The Monterey Peninsula is famous for its beauty and pristine natural habitats, enjoyed and treasured by residents of and visitors to the area. The role of managing and directing the efforts of those who work to preserve and protect these natural resources fell on Mary. She excelled at the task and, in June 1999, earned promotion as Governor Gray Davis's appointee to the position of Chief Deputy Director of the California Department of Parks and Recreation.

In addition to her official work on behalf of the State of California, Mary works alongside her husband as an enthusiastic community advocate. As a resident of Big Sur, she works on behalf of the residents and businesses there, serving as a member of the Big Sur Historical

Society and as the Vice President of the Big Sur Health Center Board of Directors. She has also been active on the Monterey Peninsula for many years, serving as an appointed commissioner on the Monterey Historic Preservation Commission from 1983 until 1992, and as an appointed commissioner on the Marina Dunes Task Force from 1985 until 1992. She truly is a precious resource for our elected officials and community members.

Mary Wright is a dedicated public servant, and a respected administrator. Her talent and vision will be sorely missed in the California Department of Parks and Recreation, but I am certain that the communities of the Central Coast will continue to benefit from them. I wish her well as she heads into a well-deserved retirement.

#### HONORING THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF VINCE THOMAS

##### HON. LANE EVANS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 4, 2001*

Mr. EVANS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Vince Thomas, a committed and dedicated community activist from my Congressional District. He is retiring from his position as executive director of Project Now, a community action agency, after almost 30 years of service to the Quad Cities area.

I have had the honor to know Vince for over 20 years. Throughout my work as a Member of Congress, I have had the privilege to work closely with him on many projects and initiatives to aid our local area. Through these efforts, he has helped build a strong Quad City community that respects diversity and reaches out to the less fortunate in our area. I am proud of the work we have achieved together and the wise counsel that Vince has given to me over the years.

You need to look no farther than the numerous awards presented to him to know the high regard that the Quad Cities and people throughout Illinois hold for Vince. He has been awarded the Dr. Martin Luther King "I Have A Dream Award" and the Martin Luther King Steering Committee Peace Award as well as the Illinois State Council of Senior Citizens Award and an appreciation award from the Quad City League of Native Americans. He is clearly a man of conscience and duty.

While Vince has been a man of many causes, he is also known for his warm personality. He may be a tenacious advocate, but he is also known for his quick smile and considerate manner. I am fortunate to count Vince as a good friend.

For those who know Vince, his name is synonymous with working for social justice and serving the neediest in our society. While Vince will be retiring from Project Now, I know that he will continue to be an energetic advocate for the underprivileged in our area. I wish him the best as he embarks on his retirement. I know that he will continue to be an inspiration to those of us who seek to make the Quad Cities an even better place to live.

#### TRIBUTE TO OS2 NEHAMON LYONS IV OF PINE BLUFF, ARKANSAS

##### HON. MIKE ROSS

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 4, 2001*

Mr. ROSS. Mr. Speaker, on September 11, 2001, our nation lost thousands of brave and innocent men and women in the unconscionable terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon. Among those who admirably, but regretfully, gave their lives that day while serving our country at the Pentagon was a gentleman from my district, Operations Specialist 2nd Class Nehamon Lyons IV. I wish to recognize his life and achievements.

Officer Lyons was born and raised in Pine Bluff, Arkansas, where he graduated from Dollarway High School in 1989. After graduating, he moved to Mobile, Alabama, and in 1997 enlisted in the Navy. Although he was first assigned to the USS *Gettysburg*, Officer Lyons had been attracted to the Pentagon since high school. Through hard work, he eventually received a coveted and prestigious assignment to the center of our nation's military command. During his tenure at the Pentagon, he effectively managed multiple responsibilities, including his most recent position as Chief of Naval Operations.

The Navy awarded Officer Lyons multiple accolades throughout his career for his contributions to our country including the Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal, the Joint Meritorious Unit Commendation, the Sea Service Deployment Ribbon, the Good Conduct Medal, and two Navy "E" Ribbons. In addition, for his bravery in the face of extreme peril on September 11, 2001, Officer Lyons will posthumously be awarded the Purple Heart of Courage and the Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal.

Officer Lyons was not only a decorated and distinguished serviceman, but also an honorable member of his community. He served this nation and his fellow citizens with spirit and bravery. All those who knew him will miss his cheerful demeanor and hard-working attitude. His passing is a significant loss not only to his family and friends, but also to our state and our nation.

I am grateful for Officer Lyons's service to and love for his country, and I pay tribute to him for his lifetime of accomplishments. My thoughts and prayers are with his mother, Jewel Lyons, and all his family and friends.

#### HERMAN CASTELLANI HONORED

##### HON. PAUL E. KANJORSKI

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 4, 2001*

Mr. KANJORSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to call the attention of the House of Representatives to the long record of service to the community by my very dear friend Herman D. Castellani, who will be honored as "Person of the Year" by the Italian-American Association of Luzerne County at the association's annual Columbus Day banquet on October 7.

Herman has served as president of the association for two years and has also served as secretary to, and a member of, its board of directors.

He has participated in numerous community activities throughout the years. He has served as president of the North Italian Citizens Club, Perugia Beneficial Italian Club and president of the Exeter Ghents Club. He has been a member of the Exeter Lions Club for 38 years, serving as president in 1971–1972. He was a volunteer office clerk for St. Anthony's Parish in Exeter, where he currently serves as vice president of the Holy Name Society and formerly served as president.

In addition, he served his fellow citizens as treasurer and occupational privilege tax collector for Exeter Borough for 11 years. He owned and operated delicatessens in Wilkes-Barre and Scranton for 21 years. He was a concrete foreman for Addy Asphalt in Wilkes-Barre for 19 years and presently works for Luzerne County.

He resides in Exeter with his wife of 47 years, the former Louise Fumanti. They have three daughters, Gloria Sekusky of Plains Township, Sharon Ellis of Shavertown and Lisa Dolhon of Exeter, and nine grandchildren. The son of the late Eugene and Palmina Catani Castellani of Nocera Umbria, Italy, he is a graduate of Plains Memorial High School.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to call to the attention of the House of Representatives the long record of service to the community by Herman Castellani, and I wish him all the best.

#### TRIBUTE TO DR. MARCUS HATTER

##### HON. DALE E. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 4, 2001*

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the memory of Dr. Marcus Anthony Hatter. Dr. Hatter will be honored at a tree planting ceremony at his alma mater, Clio High School, on October 4. He was a member of Clio High School Class of 1975. The ceremony will honor both the Class of 1975 and Dr. Hatter's memory.

During his attendance at Clio High School, Marcus Hatter was student body president for several years. He served as captain of the varsity basketball team, he was a charter member of the Genesee County Youth Leadership Council, a member of the National Honor Society, and active in the Varsity Club.

After graduating from Clio High School with honors, Dr. Hatter obtained his Bachelor of Science degree from the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, and graduated from the Michigan State University School of Medicine in 1989. He completed his medical residency at William Beaumont Hospital in Royal Oak, Michigan. He went on to become the primary physician for the Visiting Physicians Association at Medi-Lodge in Howell, Michigan. In 1994 he married Janette Dennis. They had four children and adopted a fifth child.

Dr. Hatter suffered from an illness that cut his life short. During this time Marcus Hatter was an undaunted example of courage, compassion and heart. His brother, Henry II, gave Marcus a kidney that extended his life by several years, but Dr. Hatter passed away on January 7, 2001.

He is enshrined in the memory of the people closest to him, wife Janette; children Elizabeth, Rachel, Miranda, Marcus Jr. and Aaron; parents Henry and Barbara Hatter; sister